MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Large Coastal Shark Commercial Fishing Season Closed April 25

BILOXI, Miss. – The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources has announced the closing of large coastal shark commercial fishing season, **effective Monday, April 25, 2005, at 12:01 a.m.,** due to the semi-annual quota being met. The season will reopen July 6, 2005 at 12:01 a.m.

The closing of the season in Mississippi marine territorial waters coincides with the closing of the season in federal waters.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the State by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit the DMR online at www.dmr.state.ms.us.

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